

August 16, 2001

Sir:

In approximately January 1995, I began speaking with mechanic Charles Lowry regarding installing oil recycling devices on automobiles. On February 2, 1995, Charles Lowry and I drove to 3300 N. San Fernando Blvd. in Burbank California to install an oil recycling unit on Peter McNulty's automobile. During the installation, I explained the shortcomings of the device that we were installing to Charles Lowry and told him about a more compact and easily installable system that I had designed. Charles Lowry became very excited and seemed obsessed with helping pursue the new design.

Unfortunately, on May 15, 1995 Charles Lowry informed me that he had filed a patent application based on the system we had discussed saying approximately: "I filed a patent on the device. Now I am trying to figure out what I need you for." The next day, I spoke with Dan Potaz, who put me in touch with Frank Potaz, an attorney. Frank Potaz indicated that he could pursue the case, but that it would be very expensive. I could not afford it and decided to wait.

On April 7, 1997, I filed a U.S. Patent Application, Serial No. 08, 826, 727 on the compact mobile oil recycling system. In an associated Office Action dated January 1, 1998, Examiner M. Savage, Art Unit 1723, cited US Patent 5, 824, 211 to Lowry, as prior art against the above-identified patent application.

I had conceived the concepts and embodiments disclosed and claimed in the above-identified U.S. Patent Application well before the May 3, 1995 filing date of US Patent 5, 824, 211 to Lowry, as indicated in attachments accompanying this letter. Furthermore, I was diligent in pursuing and testing the concepts.

Sincerely,

*Robert de Sylva 8-16-01*  
Robert de Sylva